

## **ATHENS RADIO CLUB MINUTES**

**February 2, 2021**

**The meeting was held on the Zoom platform and called to order at 7:30 PM.**

**In attendance: 13**

**Darby, Tyler KO4IRP  
Fallon, Billy-KN4ZFB  
Hickey, Jesse N4JAH- President  
Johnson, Bruce KX4AZ  
Koehler, Philip AF4TQ  
McCook, Kathleen- KN4IJM -Secretary  
McFerren, W. Conor-KN4SIT  
McKinnon, Howell- KM4ZXR  
Millsap, Jim- K9APD-Guest Speaker  
Reeves, James - KF4AQO-Repeater Trustee & VE  
Slutsky, Alan- KA4FJV  
Strang, Sam- KN4SPF  
Waters, Rick- WA4ERS-Past President**

### **Business Meeting**

**Meeting was called to order by Vice-President Howell McKinnon (VE exams had some members still on the way).**

### **Officers 2021**

**Jess Hickey, N4JEH-President  
Howell McKinnon, KM4ZXR,-Vice-President  
Rick Waters, WA4ERS-Past President  
Nola Geeter, KG4OVO-Treasurer  
Kathleen McCook, KN4IJM-Secretary**

**Athens Radio Club Website.**

**Athens Radio Club Discussion Group.**

## **Georgia Death Race Radio Communications Support**

**Speaker: Jim Millsap (K9APD), Cherokee ARES Emergency Coordinator, COML, COMT, AUXCOMM, CMCP. He is also the Technical Division Chief-Fulton County Emergency Services.**

**Jim Millsap told the club about his radio career and experiences with the Georgia Death Race. He stated, "Whatever you think you are prepared for—think again!" Many exciting experiences were related. Need 4 spotters for each runner. No cell service. Used a YAGI on 800mz. Help always needed for this event. Wait until you see his new Go-Box (to come).**

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**The Georgia Death Race is a 74 ISH mile trail running race from Vogel State Park to Amicalola Falls State Park in North Georgia. Runners are required to carry a rusty railroad spike the duration of the race. The race has 16,000 ft of climbing and 16,000 ft of descent. It is relentless. IT has been called the craziest and most fun race East of the Rockies. This is the most watched, sought after and desired ultra marathon on the East Coast. Come be part of the legendary course and see if you can be one of the 60% who actually finish the race. Website: Georgia Death Race. Race is March 27, 2021.**

**Member News: Claude Ray, AC4SH activated POTA park K-0846 the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site in Atlanta, GA. on January 18, 2021 making 93 contacts and 7 park-to-part contact. Map below.**

### **Old Business**

- **Minutes of the January 5, 2020 meeting were approved.**
- **Treasurers Report:**
  - Treasurer, Nola Geeter KG4OVO (e-mail)
  - To come.
- **President's report of Executive Committee meeting January 29, 2021 recorded by VP.VM Committee will be issued funds from the club to make signs for the VM testing being given at Church Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.**

**Bridgecom repeater is capable of adding additional channels to it for repeating including mutual aid repeated channels. After some discussion, it was decided that**

**Jess will go out to the new repeater site at Vaughn Road and perform a sweep to see if the new mutual channels would work on the current antenna. The committee agreed to pursue this action.**

**Ed Rollor would like to remove the any of the radio equipment (as designated by the University of Georgia) at the Institute for Disaster Management to store it at the new radio building at the Vaughn Road radio site. All agreed that this would be approved provided that the University sent an email, letter or other approval to Ed and that any items with asset tags would need to be removed from the University's asset system.**

- **VE Report- Reeves, James KF4AQO - VE Coordinator and Repeater Trustee.**

**February 2, 2021.**

**4 Technician  
3 General  
1 Extra**

**Here is the new banner that will be put up during testing.**

- **Repeater work- Reeves, James KF4AQO**

**The Club did a great deal of repeater-related work during January.**

**St. Mary's Hospital Equipment Removal.**

**On January 20 equipment was removed from St. Mary's Hospital. Removal team:**

**James Reeves (repeater Trustee, KF4AQO):  
Stan Edwards, WA4DYD;  
Bob Herrin, KE4JLL;  
Claude Ray, AC4SH;  
Ed Rollor, N4ZRA;  
Sam Strang, KN4SPF.**

**Kathleen McCook, KN4IJM took pictures. Equipment will be installed at the new 5-Points location. New Yaesu repeater to be installed with 146.745. Machine will do analog and fusion digital mode. Other than the repeater, which is on order, we should have everything we need. We will probably run tone squelch (TSQL) on the repeater.**

**January 27, 2021. Vaughn Road Tower**

**Installation Team:**

**James Reeves; KF4AQO (Repeater Trustee);**

Bob Herrin, KE4JLL.  
Jess Hickey, N4JAH;  
Howell McKinnon, KM4ZXR.

The repeater is at 145.330 with a negative offset and a TSQL of 123.0. Quote from N4JAH:“

**“Early tests have proven that ARC will now be covering a much bigger footprint, and the voids that used to exist in and around town have all but disappeared.”**

The bridgecom repeater from the hospital (the old 146.745 machine) will be reprogrammed for 145.330. The repeater will be analog only for the short term. Antenna Structure Registration <https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/AsrSearch/asrRegistration.jsp?regKey=2600324>  
We will wait a few days to add to repeater book to be sure all is working as it should.

## **Winter Field Day, 2021.**

Athens Radio Club participated in Winter Field Day 2021 at Watson Mill Bridge State Park. In Comer. Call for Winter Field Day was W4E. Winter Field Day was 24 hours January 30th and 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 from 1900 UTC (2pm EST) Saturday to 1900 UTC (2pm EST) Sunday.

**Jess Hickey, KN4JAH, Athens Radio Club President**

Winter Field Day was attended by many Athens Radio club members, families and friends. Scout troop members attended. A roaring fire was built. Some club members stayed over 2 nights at the cabin headquarters. Counts vary but it seems about 50 people attended all or part of the event. Much shared food consumed (thanks to all who brought food and supplies).

### **Map of Contacts**

**A few photos from the event say more than words:**

**Rachel Ankirskiy (spouse of club member Alex Ankirsky), did en plein air image of WFD Headquarters.**

**She has more art on Instagram:  
[https://www.instagram.com/rachel\\_ankirskiy\\_artist/](https://www.instagram.com/rachel_ankirskiy_artist/)**

**Winter Field Day Headquarters  
Cabin 3 at Watson Mill Bridge State Park**

- **ARES – Rollor, Ed N4ZRA  
Clarke County Amateur Radio Emergency Service**
- **SkyWarn**

**Has not been activated. Weather has been less furious. Anyone can activate Sky Warn.**

- **Public Service Report-Bob Herrin, KE4JLL**

## **New Business**

**Tyler and Connor, members of the UGA Small Satellite Mission Operations, are starting a UGA amateur radio club. Next week is the ARRL School Club Roundup.**

**Tyler and Connor are looking for a site to operate on UGA campus where they can attempt to sign up members and get other students interested in amateur radio.**

**Bob, KE4JLL, and I have volunteered to let them use our HF go kit radio equipment. All ARC members are invited to come and assist and instruct (only students may compete). The event starts on Monday, Feb. 8, and ends on Friday, Feb. 12.**

**They will be using the N3FJP ARRL School Roundup logging software.**

**They do not have a site at this time, but they will let us know when they get a site and days and times they plan to operate.**

**We will send out an update on the operations once they get all the details worked out and decide which callsign they plan to use.**

**Also, if you can please plan on contacting their station during the event from your home station.**

**.**

**Dues reminder.**

**New discussion list for Members only will be created to facilitate voting. Discussion group will continue open to all. Dues can be mailed. Here is the ARC membership form: <http://www.athensradioclub.org/>**

docs/ARC\_MembershipApplication.pdf

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

**Future dates:**

**March 2, 2021: 7:30p Athens Radio Club Meeting - TOPIC: "Athens Radio Club and ARES Members Support of Athens-Clarke County Emergency Management Agency." Speaker: J.W. Thaxton, Division Chief of Operations, Athens-Clarke County Fire & Emergency Services [NOTE: Meeting will be online. Link will be sent from the Groups.io club site.]**

**April 6, 2021: 6:00p License Testing & 7:30p Athens Radio Club Meeting - TOPIC: TBA [NOTE: Meeting may be online. Link will be sent from the Groups.io club site.]**

**Submitted by Kathleen McCook, KN4IJM**